UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P. D. Rey. 1450

EXAMINER

P O Box 1450 Alexandria, Virgima 22313-1450 www.usplo.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

23850 7590 0602/2009 KRATZ, QUINTOS & HANSON, LLP 1420 K Street, N.W.

TURNER, SON'I LUCAS
ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1797 DATE MAILED: 06/02/2009

1420 K Street, N.W. Suite 400 WASHINGTON, DC 20005

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/539,747 | 06/20/2005 | Hiroshi Yokota | 050344 | 5871 |
| TITLE OF INVENTION: GAS, LIQUID, SEPARATOR | | | | |

 APPLN, TYPE
 SMALL ENTITY
 ISSUE FEE DUE
 PUBLICATION FEE DUE
 PREV. PAD ISSUE FEE
 TOTAL FEE/S) DUE
 DATE DUE

 nonprovisional
 YES
 \$755
 \$300
 \$0
 \$1055
 09/02/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 1SI. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

or Fax (571)-273-2885

| maintenance fee notificati | ions. | | SSUE FEE and PUBLICA' e orders and notification of y (a) specifying a new corr | | | | |
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| CURRENT CORRESPONDE | NCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Blo | ock 1 for any change of addre | (38) No Fe Pa | ote: A certificate of e(s) Transmittal. The pers. Each additionate we its own certificate | mailing is certifi I paper, | can only be used fo cate cannot be used f such as an assignme | r domestic mailings of the or any other accompanying nt or formal drawing, must |
| 23850 | 7590 06/02 | /2009 | na | | | _ | |
| KRATZ, QUIN 1420 K Street, N. Suite 400 WASHINGTON. | | N, LLP | I I St ad tra | ereby certify that th | is Feets | of Mailing or Trans:) Transmittal is being licient postage for firs SSUE FEE address:) 273-2885, on the d | mission deposited with the United t class mail in an envelope above, or being facsimile ate indicated below. |
| WASHINGTON, | , DC 20005 | | | | | | (Depositor's name) |
| | | | | | | | (Signature) |
| | | | | | | | (Date) |
| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | | FIRST NAMED INVENTO | R | ATTOR | RNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
| 10/539,747 | 06/20/2005 | | Hiroshi Yokota | | | 050344 | 5871 |
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| nonprovisional | YES | \$755 | \$300 | \$0 | | \$1055 | 09/02/2009 |
| EXAMI | NER | ART UNIT | CLASS-SUBCLASS | | | | |
| TURNER, SO | | 1797 | 055-406000 | | | | |
| "Fee Address" indic PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 Number is required. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AN | undence address (or Cha /122) attached. cation (or "Fee Address' 2 or more recent) attach VD RESIDENCE DATA ess an assignee is identi in 37 CFR 3.11. Comp | nge of Correspondence Indication form ed. Use of a Custome | e or agents OR, alterna (2) the name of a sin | gle firm (having as a r agent) and the nam torneys or agents. If we printed. ype) patent. If an assign n assignment. | membe es of up no name | entified below, the de | ocument has been filed for |
| Please check the appropria | ate assignee category or | categories (will not be | e printed on the patent): | Individual Co | orporatio | on or other private gro | up entity Government |
| 4a. The following fee(s) are submitted: Issue Fee Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) Advance Order - # of Copies | | | 4b. Payment of Fee(s): (PI A check is enclosed Payment by credit c The Director is here overpayment, to Dep | ard. Form PTO-2038 | is attac | ched. | |
| | SMALL ENTITY statu | is. See 37 CFR 1.27. | ☐ b. Applicant is no lo | | | | |
| NOTE: The Issue Fee and interest as shown by the re | Publication Fee (if requeecords of the United Sta | iired) will not be acce tes Patent and Tradem | pted from anyone other than ark Office. | the applicant; a regi | stered a | ttorney or agent; or th | e assignee or other party in |
| Authorized Signature | | | | Date | | | |
| Typed or printed name | | | | Registration N | | | |
| This collection of informa an application. Confidenti submitting the completed this form and/or suggestic Box 1450, Alexandria, Vi Alexandria, Virginia 2231 | tion is required by 37 C iality is governed by 35 application form to the ons for reducing this bur rginia 22313-1450. DC 3-1450. | FR 1.311. The inform U.S.C. 122 and 37 Cl USPTO. Time will v den, should be sent to 0 NOT SEND FEES C | ation is required to obtain of FR 1.14. This collection is eary depending upon the indo the Chief Information Offi OR COMPLETED FORMS | r retain a benefit by t estimated to take 12 to lividual case. Any co cer, U.S. Patent and IO THIS ADDRESS | he publi minutes omments Tradem S. SEND | to which is to file (and to complete, including to on the amount of tit ark Office, U.S. Depa TO: Commissioner | by the USPTO to process) g gathering, preparing, and ne you require to complete utment of Commerce, P.O. for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, |

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| 1420 K Street, N.W. | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| Suite 400 WASHINGTON DC 20005 | | | 1797 | |

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 638 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 638 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

| Application No. | Applicant(s) | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--|--|
| 10/539,747 | YOKOTA ET AL. | | |
| Examiner | Art Unit | | |
| SON II TURNER | 1797 | | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address-All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.133 and MPEP 1308.

- This communication is responsive to 3/13/2009.
- The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
- 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 - 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 - Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

- A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
- 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) \square including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - The reto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date ____.

 (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
 - Paper No./Mail Date _____.

 Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-946).
- Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date
- Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
- Interview Summery (PTO-413).
 Paper No./Mail Date
- 7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8. X Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Application/Control Number: 10/539,747

Art Unit: 1797

Response to Remarks

Applicant's remarks, see pages 6-7, filed February 25, 2009, with respect to claim 1 have been fully considered, and are persuasive. The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been withdrawn. Accordingly, the rejection of linking claims 2-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has also been withdrawn.

Claims 1-20 are allowed. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The Examiner found Applicant's arguments persuasive, and therefore, considers that the references of the prior art of record fail to teach, or suggest any obvious combination of the limitations described in independent claim 1.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sonji Turner whose telephone number is 571-272-1203. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on 571-272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you

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Art Unit: 1797

would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

st 05/26/2009

/DUANE SMITH/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1797